WENDELL POST

Vol. II / No. 1 April 1978 25¢

Annual Town Meeting ~ May 6th

The 1978 Annual Wendell Town Meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6, 1978 at the Town Hall. Wendell Town Meeting members will face a warrant of 47 articles, including 4 articles for the Special Town Meeting starting at 10:00 a.m., the same morning.

Articles calling for appropriating monies for the upcoming fiscal year take up most of the list on the warrant. Other articles call for establishment of a Town Meeting quorum. an Energy Conservation Committee, a Finance Committee, a Development and Industrial Committee, and to create an Insect Spraying Program. One measure would provide use of Free Cash to lower tax, and another continue maintenance of Bullard Pasture Rd.

The total school appropriation proposed is $227,619.06. This item is up $7,656.30. This is due largely to $9,000 increase in the Swift River School budget.

The Selectboard offered resistance to the requests of increased spending by the Town's other major department, the Wendell D.P.W. Acting as our Finance Committee, they recommended a total appropriation of $92,335. This was done after the Selectboard reduced requests for a $250 increase in Highway Surveyor's

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Election ~ May 1st 12~7 P.M.

DONALD R. ELLIS
Morse Village Rd.

I've lived in town all my life and have always been interested in politics.

In the past, I've served on the Board of Welfare for eight years, as a special policeman for four years, and as dog officer for five years. I've served six years as selectman, and am seeking a third term to this office.

I'd like to see the tax rate drop in half and continue the same services to the town as we've had in the past. Spending in the town has got to be cut. Every year department heads ask for an increase in their budgets. The entire town as a whole has got to work together to reduce the tax rate. There is no way the tax rate will decrease until the spending is decreased.

The Selectmen can only suggest cuts in the budgets. It is up to the townspeople to vote down unjustified increases. A town the size of Wendell cannot afford to buy the newest and latest equipment, each department feels is necessary to their department, and still keep the tax rate down.

If spending continues the same as it has in the last few years, we'll need the proposed twin nuclear Montague power plant to pay our tax bill.

Donald Ellis
Wendell

KENNETH SIMOS
Stone Cut Off Rd.

I believe that the board of selectmen and their former members have done a creditable job in the past, but today the problems are becoming so fast and complex that the simple approach cannot keep up. My view of town government is to initiate action in preparation for tomorrow. For this reason, I have placed three articles on the warrant. One calls for a quorum at all town meetings, one is for the use of free cash to reduce the tax rate and the other is for a commission to make application for federal funds that have recently become available under HUD. I am doing everything I can to bring choices and solutions before the voter. The decisions ahead will be hard ones, but what the people will expect from their government will clearly be seen in this election.

Kenneth Simos

Happy Birthday To Us

A year ago, a zealous, almost exuberant group of us pulled a daydream out of the hip pocket of our collective minds. From that fantasy we shaped the first gangly Wendell Post.

Today, the Post seems a little less shakey. And yet, while the staff is decidely short of daydreaming time, we feel an even greater pressure to produce this fragile piece of reality, for we have a more clear sense of our place in the order of Wendell events. We have learned a respect for occupying this position and for the responsibility required to be there.

There have been moments of carelessness and some mistakes in what has been too often a rush to the printers. We regret any confusion caused, certainly any harm. We are grateful that many Wendell citizens have come to trust. our intentions and expressed that trust by helping us.

Recent events in Wendell make it clear how important accessible, precise information is to making decisions about the future of our town. In our second year we will continue to dedicate ourselves to providing this kind of news.

Best Wishes for continued success to the Wendell Post

Ed Judice Photography

WENDELL POST

Vol. 1 Issue 10

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Faith Sylvia

Please send all manuscripts, photos, letters to:

Wendell Post
Box 113
Wendell, Mass. 01379
or call Annie Diemand at 544-2762

To The Post

The following is a letter dated April 6, and sent to the Wendell Assessors, submitted to the Post by Assessor Hartjens.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is New England Power Company's application for abatement of real estate tax on land in Wendell. In view of recent articles in the Greenfield Recorder, we feel that a meeting between the Board and ourselves would be appropriate.

Would you please inform us of the next regular meeting of your board.

Very truly yours,
David M. Collins
Manager of Property Taxes

Selectmens Minutes

March 21, 1978

Forrest Carey was appointed Inspector of Animals. School Committee Chairman, Claire Stewart, explained the Federal Funded Pre-School Program that is proposed for the Wendell Center School for next year and possibly for two years. Included in this is a sizeable sum for remodeling.

Parker Cleveland requested the Town Hall for a meeting on Saturday, April 1, to discuss the present property assessments.

Road Superintendent, David Bardsley, asked the Board how they wanted him to purchase gravel at this time.

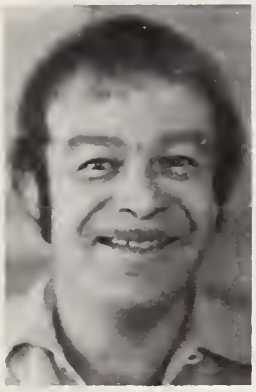
March 28, 1978

Donald Ellis and Maurice Cole went to a meeting in Warwick to decide upon the shared Administrative Assistant. The joint boards will meet Sunday, April 2nd, at 3:00 at the Wendell Center Town Hall.

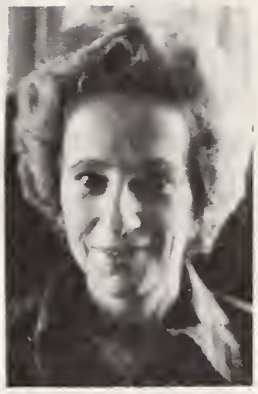
Tax Collector, Judith Wilder, requested permission to purchase a Micro Reader to help with the collection of Motor Vehicle Excise tax bills. The Board approved the request.

April 4, 1978

The annual Town Meeting Warrant was signed, (election May 1 and business meeting May 6th at 10:30 a.m.) The special Town Meeting Warrant was signed, (May 6th at 10:00 a.m.)



JOSEPH P. HARTJENS
Wendell Depot Rd.



JUNE E. LEWIS
Locke Hill Rd.

☆ ASSESSOR 3 yrs. ☆

I am running for Assessor because I feel that if you start something you shouldn't quit when things get a little hot. I began working with the full value situation and I feel I should remain on the Board of Assessors until all the problems are ironed out to the satisfaction of the people.

Assessing is a very complex and interesting job, sometimes full of headaches, but generally quite satisfying. I have tried and will always try to remain unbiased when assessing any property in the Town of Wendell.

☆ Joseph Hartjens

Why am I running for assessor? This is a very difficult question to answer. There are a number of reasons, but I guess the basic reason is that I'm just plain mad. Mad at the system that has no rhyme or reason, no fairness, only blind senseless rate setting and evaluation.

This is a small rural community, with no industry, none of the niceties of the city (such as garbage collection), acres of state land which is so close to being tax free, it's no longer a joke. And then there are the utilities, whose taxes go down while the average taxpayer's goes sky-rocketing out of sight, to the point where they feel they must either rebel or go under. I feel that it is time to take a stand. To plant our feet firmly and say, "This is enough, too much, it has to stop now."

I don't know any more about accessing than the next person, but I am willing to learn. I'm willing to listen, to study, to discuss and to keep an open mind. To try never to be too stubborn to say, "I'm wrong" when I've made a mistake, and we all do make mistakes. There has to be a better, fairer way. I guess what I'm trying to say is - "I want to help, if you'll let me."

June E. Lewis

MARY ELLEN EASTERBROOKS
Lockes Village Rd.

JUDITH N. PUTNAM
Bullard Pasture Rd.

☆ SCHOOL COMMITTEE 3 yrs. ☆

I am looking forward to continuing to represent Wendell taxpayers and parents at Mahar. To help me in representing you, I would appreciate your input into matters concerning the school committee. I am not a professional educator, but a concerned parent and taxpayer. Please feel free to call me for information exchanges and to inform me how I may best represent your views.

☆ Mary Ellen Easterbrooks
Candidate for Re-election
to School Committee

I have chosen to run for School Committee because I'm concerned with the rising cost of education. With many of our tax dollars being spent on the schools, I feel that we should have quality education but also hold down spending. I would welcome input from the people of Wendell and I would serve with integity and fairness.

Judith N. Putnam

Taxes Still Tangled
Taxpayers Associate

On April 1st a group of approximately 45 Wendell citizens met again at the Town Hall with Assessor Joseph Hartjens. Townspeople were searching still for clarification of the new Wendell tax picture. When the long, hard meeting was over there were as many new questions as there were old ones answered. The Taxpayers' dissatisfaction with this outcome resulted in the formation of the Wendell Taxpayers' Association.

On April 4th at a regular meeting of the Selectboard a group of the same people requested of Selectman, Ted Lewis, approval to engage a lawyer to represent the Town. The lawyer would perform a fact-finding function for the citizens of Wendell. Lewis with the approval of Selectman Maurice Cole, who was not there, approved this request.

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☆ TREASURER 3 yrs. ☆

...this is a part-time job that requires full time hours*... this is a brief description of the office of Treasurer, previously said by our former Treasurer, and I have to agree with her 100%!

Since being appointed last December, I have had to quickly acquaint myself to all the facets of this job. Though the hours are long, I enjoy the job and that is why I am running for Treasurer. In the near future, I hope to have a monthly general accounting of all monies received and spent published in the Wendell Post. This is public information and I feel strongly that we all should know how and where our money is being spent.
*This is not a direct quote!

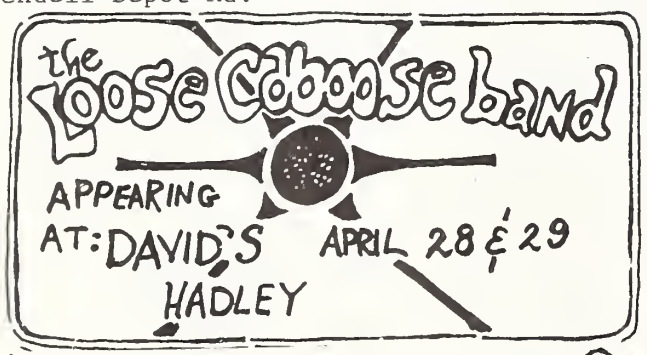
Margaret (Peggy) Simos
Treasurer

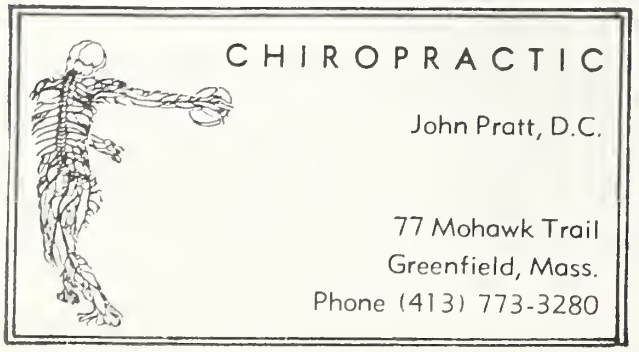
☆ TREE WARDEN 1 yr. ☆

DANIEL E. BACIGALUPO
Posk Place Rd.

☆ AUDITOR 1 yr. ☆

DOLORES L. WILLISTON
Wendell Depot Rd.





☆ CEMETARY COMMISSIONER 3 yrs. ☆

Charles Shaw of Cooleyville Road is running for the three year term of Cemetery Commissioner. The main work of Commissioner consist mostly of mowing lawns in the two cemeteries and keeping the gravesites in good repair. From Memorial Day on...when flags are placed on the graves of the veterans and people come to to place flowers on the graves of their loved ones...the grass is mowed regularly. Preparation for burials is no longer done by hand but now by local equipment.
Charles has enfoyed being Cemetery Commissioner because he feels that he is really doing g something for the local people when maintaining the cemteries as quiet and serene places of rest.

☆ CEMETARY COMMISSIONER 1 yr. ☆

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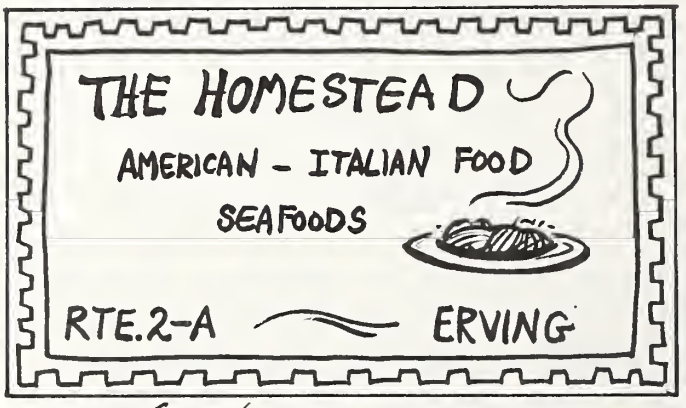
☆ BOARD OF HEALTH 3 yrs. ☆

DAVID E. WILDER
Wendell Depot Rd.



Meeting----- continued from page 1

salary, $3,000 more for snow and sanding, $10,000 more for Maintenence and Repair of Highways, $600 of the Highway Total Acct. $3,000 for New Salem Rd. Permanent Work, $6,000 for a used road grader. They went along with a $5,000 request for a new pick-up truck, while mutually reducing the Road Machinery Maintenance and Operations Account by $3,700.

Other articles of interest:

Article 34 - Ask if Town will accept Statewide Method for drawing up local zoning bylaws.

Article 41 - Ask whether the Town accepts the Police Dept. entry into County Mutual Aid Agreement.

Article 40 - Ask whether Town would use Free Cash to reduce Tax Rate.

Article 36 - See if Town will elect a five member Finance Committee. [The establishment of this board is mandated by the state law because the Town's total value has reached more than $1,000,000]

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SATURDAY, MAY 6 AT 10 am.

Special Town Meeting - Saturday, May 6, 1978, 10:00

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of $2,210.44 to pay the New Salem - Wendell Union Elementary School funds that were outstanding as of June 30, 1976 as per the State Audit Report dated December 23, 1977, or take any action thereon.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the additional sum of $2,900.00 for the New Salem/Wendell Union School - Wendell Local Expenses account, or take any action thereon.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the additional sum of $2,500.00 for Veteran's Benefits. or take any action thereon.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the additional sum of $1,243.00 for Workmen's Compensation. or take any action thereon.

Article 1. To choose all on one ballot, one Planning Board member for five years; one Selectman, one Assessor, one School Committee member, one Library Trustee, one Board of Health member, one Cemetery Commissioner, one Town Clerk, one Treasurer, one Tax Collector for three years; one Library Trustee, one Cemetery Commissioner, one Auditor, one Moderator, one Tree Warden for one year, or take any action thereon.

Article 2. To hear the report of Town Officials, or take any action thereon.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 1978, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable, within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any action thereon.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to fix the Salary and compensation of all elected and appointed officials of the Town for the financial year beginning July 1, 1978, as provided in section 108, Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate such sums of money as shall be deemed necessary to defray such salaries and expenses of General Government for that period, or take any action thereon.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Salary, Holiday and Vacation Pay for the Highway Surveyor, or take any action thereon.

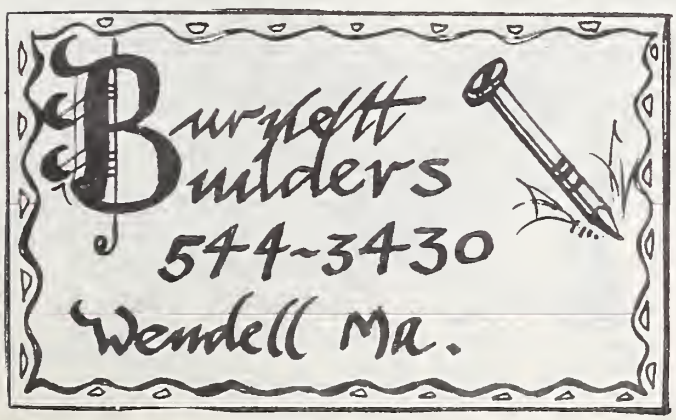
Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Holiday and Vacation Pay for the Department of Public Works Employees, or take any action thereon.

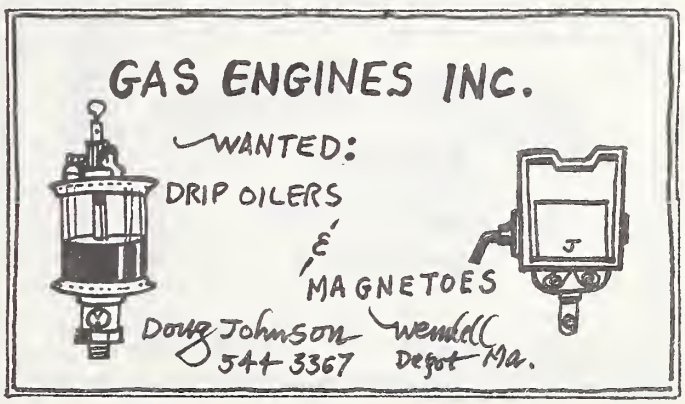
Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money to defray Unclassified Town Expenses, or take any action thereon.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote ro raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for the Road Machinery Maintenance and Operation Account, or take any action thereon.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate such sums of money to defray local Road Expenses. or take any action thereon.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or borrow, in anticipation of receipt of State Funds, for Chapter 90 Construction, or take any action thereon.





Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for year around Maintenance and Repair of Highways, or take any action thereon.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for a Tool Account for the Highway Department, or take any action thereon.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for New Salem Road Permanent Work, going towards New Salem, or take any action thereon.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Farley Road Permanent Work, or take any action thereon.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money to purchase a Used Road Grader for the Highway Department, or take any action thereon.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money to purchase and equip a New Pick-up Truck for the Highway Department or take ony action thereon.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money to Maintain Town Real Property, or take any action thereon.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Protection of Persons and Property, or take any action thereon.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money to purchase a new Portable Pumb for the Fire Department, or take any action thereon.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money to purchase Two (2) Resusitator Mannekins, or take any action thereon.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Federal Revenue Sharing Funds to purchase and install a new Radio for the Police Department, or take any action thereon.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money and to appropriate the Dog Fund, for Library Expenses, or to take any action thereon.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept the sum of $1,000.00, specified as "Direct State Aid to Public Libraries," from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or take any action thereon.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Interest, Insurance and Assessments, or take any action thereon.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Health and Sanitation, or take any action thereon.

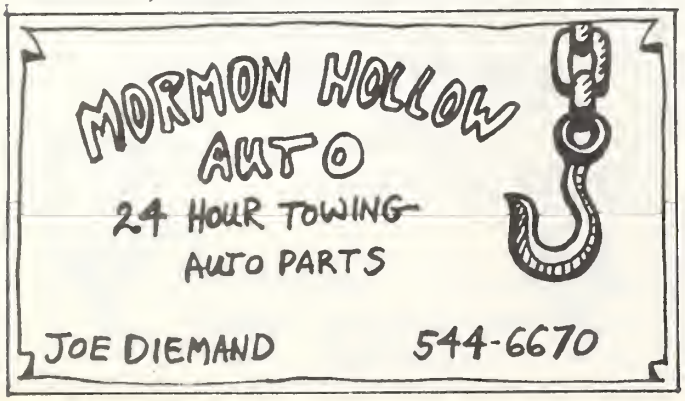
Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money, incl. interest, for Cemeteries, or take any action thereon.

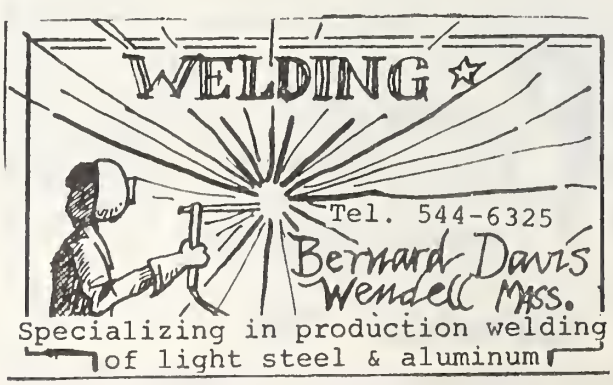
Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Veteran's Benefits and Services, or take any action thereon.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Schools and Education, or take any action thereon.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Swimming Lessons for Wendell School Children Grade 1 through 6, or take any action thereon.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money as Wendell's share for the Regional Program for the transportation of the elderly and handicapped, or take any action thereon.





Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for payment of Principal and Interest of the New Salem - Wendell Union School Bond, or take any action thereon.

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Bills of Prior Year, or take any action thereon.

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to establish an Energy Conservation Committee for the purpose of studying and recommending energy conservation policies to the Town and its citizens, and further, to authorize the Selectmen to appoint a committee of no fewer than five (5) citizens and not more than nine (9) citizens; and further, said committee to prepare a report and present the same at the next Annual Town Meeting, or take any action thereon.

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A as revised by Chapter 808 Act of 1975, or take any action thereon.

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following bylaws: "That 25 registered voters shall constitute a quorum at Town Meetings, as provided for in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 39, Section 13." or take any action thereon.

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following bylaws: "That the Town provide for the election of a Finance Committee consisting of five members with terms not exceeding three years from the date of election, as required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 39, Section 16." or take any action thereon.

Article 37. To see if the Town will vote to recind $2,000.00 of the May 11, 1974 meeting, Article 18 vote, in which the Town was authorized to borrow up to $10,000.00 to purchase and equip a four wheel drive loader (the actual amount borrowed was $8,000.00), or take any action thereon.

Article 38. To see if the Town will vote to establish a development and Industrial Commission consisting of seven (7) members who shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen under the authority of Chapter 40, Section 8A of General Laws of the Commonwealth and to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars ($500) for the general expense, or take any action thereon.

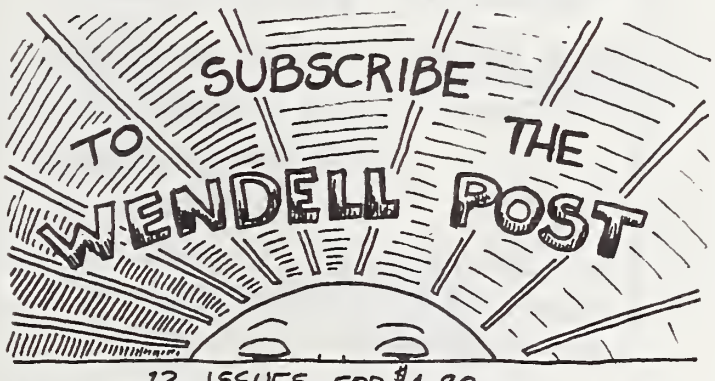
Article 39. To see if the Town will vote to continue maintenance of the Town owned road known as the Bullard Pasture Road, beginning at Montague Road and proceeding approximately 3/4 of a mile south to the southern most boundary of the land of Lincoln and Gwen Soule, or take any action thereon.

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate 50% of the total of available "Free Cash" when that total is at least, but not less than $60,000.00 duly stated and certified to allow the Assessors to reduce the tax rate for Fiscal Year 1979, or to take any action thereon.

Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8G, or take any action thereon.

Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate a sum of money for Insect Control, or take any action thereon.

Article 43. To Transact any other legal business that may come before said meeting.



12 ISSUES FOR $4.80

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

P.O. BOX 113 WENDELL, MASS. 01379

≈ Health Fair ≈

"Help Your Self to Health" Fair on Friday, April 21st from 6-9pm and Saturday, 10am-3pm at the Greenfield High School. Jugglers, puppet shows, bellydancers, films and information displays. A variety of Franklin County agencies and individuals will be offering a wealth of information on nutrition, environmentsl health, drug abuse, emotional well-being, exercise, relaxation and much more...all free to the public.

The Fair is being co-sponsored by the Health Promotion Project and the Franklin - Hampshire Community Health Center. The project is C.E.T.A. funded.

☆ LIBRARY TRUSTEE 3 yrs. ☆

Mrs. Herrick said to the Wendell Post recently, "I love the library and I want to do everything to make it as good as possible." Her affection for books has been nutured by a former career as a teacher of English, history, and French at the high school and junior college level.

She is happy with the many new additions aquired by the Wendell Public Library. She has been very happy with the input of some of the new trustees.

Marion Herrick
Library Trustee - 3 yrs.

☆ LIBRARY TRUSTEE 1 yr. ☆

I am currently serving in this capacity as an appointee. I like being involved with Wendell's library. At present, I am completing my Master's Degree in Library Science. I'd like to help the Wendell Free Library specifically in acquisitions and cataloging, and work on getting some long overdue books returned.

Christina M. Cohen
Library Turstee

☆ TAX COLLECTOR 3 yrs. ☆

I have lived in Wendell for 19 years, have had experience in dealing with people and figures at Erving Paper Mill. I feel Wendell needs to forget personalities and deal with the problems of running our town like a business. We are now handling large amounts of money and we cannot continue the hit and miss efforts of the past.

Judith Wilder
Tax Collector

☆ MODERATOR 1 yr. ☆

EMMA M. CAPPELLUZZO
West St.

SCOTT J. HUNTER
Ross Rd.

☆ PLANNING BOARD 5 yrs. ☆

The Planning Board, composed of five members, meets once a month to discuss the future of Wendell, then those five make recommendations and suggestions to improve the quality of life in Wendell and your part in it. Recently we have attempted to arouse an interest in the purchase of land for a new cemetary, but found little or no response from the townspeople on this subject. We hope that some local land owner will come forward and make a gift to the town of a plot of land suitable for such a purpose, perhaps as a memorial to their family and loved ones. Due to recent changes in the state laws and more recent developments in our community I believe the most important issues facing the Planning Board this coming year will be changes in our zoning regulations which would be acceptable to the local people and an in depth study of all town owned land with a view towards its eventual utilization for the benefit of all our citizens.

Raymond Avery

25 KING ST.
NPTN, MA.
01061
(413) 584-1373
11 CHAPMAN ST.
GNFIELD, MA.
01301
(413) 774-3472

Dawn ReaLty
FOR SALE: 5 Acres of Wooded Land excellent condition - cordwood $7,000
We have other homes for sale in Wendell area call or stop by for information
71 PINE STREET ~ AMHERST, MA. 01002
(413) 253-5650

CUSTOM SHADES
WINDOWS
RESTORATIONS
D. Henry Pugh
STAINED GLASS
BOX 216, WENDELL, MA 01379
(617) 544-7438

Social Notes

Maurice Lauro

Maurice Lauro of Farley Road died on April 14 in Greenfield after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, the former Edna Burton and his daughter, Enid Weide, of New York City, three grandchildren and several great grand children.

Mr. Lauro had an active interest in town affairs having been Civil Defense Director from 1970 to 1977. During that time, he made many trips to Taunton to bring back surplus equipment to the town, some of which is still being used by the Highway Department. He was also interested in the Wendell Free Library and handmade and contributed the Book Drop for the convenience of borrowers. Many of our road signs were painted and lettered by him.

The closing of the Congregational Church in Wendell Center was of deep concern to him and he made a sincere effort to restore it as the inspirational center of the town that it had been for so long. Mr. Lauro was secretary of the Wendell Golden Agers.

Final services for Maurice Lauro will be in Hartsdale, New York.

Ballou's Store Sold

Charles and Winona Ballou recently announced that Ballou's Store will change hands. The new owner, Wendell resident Ann Zak, plans to take over the business some time in June. The Ballous are building a new home across the street from the store.

Winny expresses her affection and thanks to the people who have patronized the store through the years.

****

Reminder, when voting, if a ballot is incorrectly marked, Do Not attempt to erase or otherwise correct the error. Get a new ballot from the clerks.

WRITE-IN OR STICKER CANDIDATES, contact Annie Hartjens to check on what the laws are pertaining to that.

ABSENTEE VOTERS, anyone who will be out of town or who will be unable to come to the polls because of illness has a right to vote absentee. Call Anna Hartjens, 4-6052.

Posting Place

From The Town Clerk

Recent rulings allow parents of unmarried children to have father's name recorded on Birth Certificate. To do so requires written consent of both parents. This takes the form of a notarized statement acknowledging paternity and the request. Similiar changes allow the use of hyphenated names and maternal names.

Simons To Visit

Representative Tom Simons [R] will be at the Town Hall April 21, 7-9 P.M.

Movie Schedule

The Spring Film Series sponsored by the Wendell Free Library in conjunction with the Western Regional Public Library System continues to show films Wednesday nights at 7:00 at the Wendell Town Hall.

April 19	"The Thief of Bagdad"
	"The Stringbean"
April 26	"The Point"
	"A Tale of the Fiords"

Old Home Day

The next meeting for anyone interested in Old Home Day preperation is on Thursday, April 27th at 7:30pm at the Fire Station. We really need more input from the townspeople. For more information call Tom or Gail at 4-2174 or Anne at 4-2762.

Cancer Fund Drive

The weekend of April 22nd, volunteers will be out collecting money for the Cancer Fund. Hopefully, every family will contribute at least 50¢.

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TAP AND BALLET DANCING

Lessons starting Thursday, April 27th at 3p.m. in the Wendell Town Hall. $1.50 per lesson. By Linda Diemand. For further information or to register call 544-2762.

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Now is the time to get your manure for your garden. We deliver or you can come and get it yourself.. Call Diemand's at 544-3806.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

WANTED: Mature individual interested in cooking. Some experience helpful, will train. Must enjoy working with kids in dynamic environment. Part time in afternoons. Call Myron at Maple Valley School. 544-6637.

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Taxes----- continued from page 3

Following the Selectmens' meeting, the taxpayers met to chose officers. June Lewis was picked for Chairwoman. Kenneth Wing, Joseph Diemand, Jessie Wetherby, Don Bender, Flora Blackbird, Raymond DuCharme, Parker Cleveland, Pliny Stebbins made up a Board of Directors.

On April 6, June Lewis, Don Bender, Pliny Stebbins met with Attorney Jack Gates in Greenfield. His advice was to encourage taxpayers who felt that their assessments were improper was to apply for an abatement before April 14th, the due date of the Tax Bill. In order to bring the bills into question as a whole, he would have to see the plan filed with the state which the assessors wsed to reach 100% valuation. used

The Wendell Taxpayers Association met Monday April 10, to act on an agenda drawn up by the Board of Directors the night before. First, membership was defined. "Anyone who pays taxes to the Town of Wendell may be a member of the Association". This was moved and then carried by the majority present. A two dollar membership dues was unanimously approved. A long discussion resulted in Donald Stone's chairing a committee on the rights and recourse of taxpayers. Michael Idoine proposed that the association submit a list of names to the Board of Assessor's to serve as Assisstant Assessor's." Such a move create more understanding, seeing there would be more people acquainted with the assessing process. Further it would give other citizens a sense that citizens can move to solve their own problems." Idoine said. Al Diemand proposed that the group table the idea "Since the Assessor's new meeting schedule means there won't be a meeting until after the election, so there's not much that such a group can accomplish until then." Members went along with his suggestion and the motion was defeated.

During the meeting there was a report from the people who met with the lawyer Jack Gates. Chairwoman Lewis, pointed out "The only alternative to proving that the 100% reevaluation plan was not properly followed is to pay taxes and file an abatement. Taxpayers must remember that when they accept an abatement, they have settled their claim and they can not expect further relief."

As the April 14th billing date approached at least 50 applications for abatement have been filed. Assessor Hartjens says that the overlay will cover only $213,000 in assessments equal to about $3993.75 in taxes. It is not known yet whether the abatements will run near this figure.

The Post contacted a Mr. Grosso at the Dept. of Corporation and Taxation who explained the process of the upcoming hearing in Northhampton. Grosso said that these hearings are used to adjust the equalized valuations set by the department. "If there is a dispute the Assessors must represent the Town in seeking an adjustment. Townspeople may come, but only as an audience. "The hearing is April 28 at 1:30 at the Smith Vocational School. Members of the Wendell Taxpayers Association are planning to attend. The newly announced equalized valuation to take effect in 1980 is $12,210,000 This is a 38% increase over the current figure of $7,506,000.

BALLOUS' FEEDS

LIME, 95¢ Per BAG, 80 LBS. & LIMITED 5 BAGS PER CUSTOMER

FERTILIZER— 5-10-10, 80 LBS @ $5.20
ORANGE MA. 10-10-10, 80 LBS @ $5.95
4-2158 10-20-20, 80 LBS @ $7.44

☆ TOWN CLERK 3 yrs. ☆

I am running for re-election for Town Clerk because I find the job very interesting and a challenge. I like meeting people and getting to know them as a member of our town, and usually for one reason or another everyone shows up at my office. They come to get a license of some sort, register to vote, get married, have a baby, or any one of many other reasons. People call me with all kinds of questions pertaining to one level or another. Once in a while a question pops up that takes a lot of digging.

Anna Hartjens

Emond Landscaping & Nurseries
Wendell, Ma. Call after 6:00 P.M. 544-3770
Proffessionally Designed
Foundation Plantings
Trimming Lawn Maintenance